

# Hidden Lane Landfill

Sterling, Loudoun County, Virginia

Superfund Program Site Fact Sheet

**Type of Facility:** Former Private Construction Debris Landfill (Closed)

**Contaminants:** Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including trichloroethene (TCE), 1,1,1-trichloroethane and 1,2-dichloroethene, and other contaminants associated with landfills

**Funding:** Fund Lead

## Site Description and History

The Hidden Lane Landfill is located  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile north of Route 7 in Sterling, Loudoun County. The landfill is approximately 30 acres in size on a 147 acre parcel of property. The landfill is bordered to the north by an undeveloped portion of the property and the Potomac River, to the east by the Countryside subdivision, and to the south and west by the Broad Run Farms (BRF) subdivision that has private drinking water wells.

The Hidden Lane Landfill was operated as an unlined landfill from 1971 until 1984. In 1971 the landowners asked the county if they could fill their property to bring it above the flood level. The landowners then began filling part of their property with a wide range of construction and non-construction wastes without approval from the county. The facility operated under a Virginia Department of Health (VDH) debris landfill permit from 1981 to 1984. The courts forced the landfill to close in 1984 since it was shown that they were accepting wastes other than construction and demolition debris.

The VDH Bureau of Solid Waste Management conducted a preliminary assessment (PA) in 1984. At the time of the PA, the landfill placed two feet of clay to cover the landfill. Further investigation was recommended, so a site inspection (SI) was conducted by EPA's contractor, the NUS Corporation in 1988. Ground water, surface water and sediment samples were collected. The samples showed semivolatile (SVOC) and volatile (VOC) contamination in the groundwater. Two residential wells that detected VOCs were notified and advised to install a water filtration unit.

In 1988, Loudoun County installed monitoring wells. As a result of methane detection, a gas mitigation system was installed along the border of the Countryside neighborhood. In February 2005 the VDH contacted the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) about several monitoring wells that detected ground water contamination in the BRF neighborhood. The VDH performed a sampling event of residential wells in the BRF neighborhood and identified a total of 25 residential wells contaminated with TCE,

16 of which contained concentrations at or above EPA's drinking water standard of 5 µg/L. In October 2005, Tetra Tech, an EPA contractor, completed an integrated site assessment. TCE was detected in surface and subsurface soil samples, and in downgradient residential wells. TCE was not detected in the Potomac River.

With assistance from DEQ, county health authorities installed water filtration systems in each home where wells were contaminated. During the installation, homeowners were offered bottled water. DEQ is also performing maintenance of these units by collecting water samples before and after the carbon filtration units.

### **Threats and Contaminants**

Sampling has showed elevated levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including trichloroethene (TCE), 1,1,1- trichloroethane and 1,2-dichloroethene, and other contaminants in the ground water near the landfill.

### **Current Site Status**

The site was proposed for the National Priorities List (NPL) on September 19, 2007. The deadline for comments on the listing was November 19, 2007.

### **Community Relations and Concerns**

EPA staff conducted a public meeting in Sterling, Virginia on October 24, 2007 for the local citizens to discuss the site and EPA's proposed take over of the site remediation. There was a question and answer session after EPA's presentation.

<b>VDEQ Representatives</b>	<b>Information Repository</b>
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